

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 23-27 without disclaimer and without prejudice to filing one or more continuation or divisional applications therefor.

2. Please amend claims 1, 3-7, 10, 11, 14, 17-19 and 22 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A composition of matter, comprising:

- 70b
B6
- a) somatotropin;
 - b) a first bioavailability enhancing constituent (BEC); and,
 - c) optionally, a second BEC;

wherein the first BEC is a non-ionic surfactant;

wherein the second BEC is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: one or more non-reducing carbohydrate(s) and one or more oxo-acid salt(s); and,

wherein the somatotropin and BEC are suspended in a substantially non-aqueous hydrophobic carrier.

3. (Amended) The composition of either claim 1 or 2, wherein the composition is fluidly injectable at 37°C to 39°C.

4. (Amended) The composition of matter of either claim 1 or 2, wherein the somatotropin is present as a zinc salt or complex.

5. (Amended) The composition of matter of either claim 1 or 2, wherein the somatotropin is human, equine, bovine, or porcine somatotropin.

6. (Amended) The composition of matter of either claim 1 or 2, wherein the second bioavailability enhancing constituent is a non-reducing carbohydrate selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: at least one polyol and at least one carbohydrate ester.

7. (Amended) The composition of matter of claim 6, wherein the second bioavailability enhancing constituent is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: trehalose, sucrose, mannitol, sorbitol, trehalose octaacetate, trehalose dihydrate, sucrose octaacetate, and cellobiose octaacetate.

10. (Amended) The composition of matter of either claim 1 or 2, wherein the second bioavailability enhancing constituent (BEC) is selected from one or a mixture of two or more oxo-acid salt(s).

11. (Amended) The composition of matter of either claim 10, wherein the second BEC is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: monobasic potassium phosphate, dibasic potassium phosphate, monobasic calcium phosphate, dibasic calcium phosphate, sodium nitrate, and dibasic sodium sulfate.

14. (Amended) A composition of matter, comprising:

- a) somatotropin,
b) a first bioavailability enhancing constituent (BEC), and,
c) optionally, a second BEC;

wherein the first BEC comprises one or a mixture of two or more of the following: polyoxyethylene 4 stearate, polyoxyethylene 8 stearate, polyoxyethylene(20) sorbitan monooleate (Tween® 80);

wherein the second BEC is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: one or more non-reducing carbohydrate(s) and one or more oxo-acid salt(s); and,

wherein the somatotropin and BEC are suspended in a substantially non-aqueous hydrophobic carrier.

17. (Amended) The composition of claim 15, further comprising a second BEC, wherein the second BEC selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: trehalose, monobasic sodium phosphate, and a mixture of monobasic- and dibasic-sodium phosphate in about a 6:4 molar ratio.

18. **(Amended)** A method for eliciting a desired physiological response in a susceptible animal comprising:

parenterally administering to the animal a biocompatible composition of matter comprising:

- a) a somatotropin, active in the animal;
b) a first bioavailability enhancing constituent (BEC); and,
c) optionally, a second BEC;

wherein the first BEC is selected from a non-ionic surfactant;

wherein the second BEC is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: one or more non-reducing carbohydrate(s) and one or more oxo-acid salt(s); and,

wherein the somatotropin and BEC are suspended in a substantially non-aqueous hydrophobic carrier.

19. **(Amended)** The method of 18, wherein the first BEC is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: polyoxyethylene 4 stearate, polyoxyethylene 8 stearate, and polyoxyethylene(20) sorbitan monooleate (Tween® 80).

22. **(Amended)** The composition of claim 20, further comprising a second BEC, wherein the second BEC is selected from one or a mixture of two or more of the following: trehalose, monobasic sodium phosphate, and mixture of monobasic- and dibasic-sodium phosphate in about a 6:4 molar ratio.

REMARKS

I. Status of the claims

Claims 23-27 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 3-7, 10, 11, 14, 17-19, and 22 are amended.

Claims 1-22 are currently pending.

For the Examiner's convenience, a complete copy of the currently pending claims, including marked up versions of the amended claims, is attached hereto.